

May 23, 2011
8:30 A.M.
Newport, Oregon

The Business License/Room Tax Review Task Force for the City of Newport met on the above date in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Rob Oberbillig, Art Moore, Steve Beck, Lee Hardy, Patti Cauduro, Mike Schulz, Tracy Wiley, Mark McConnell, and Lon Brusselback.

Staff present was City Manager Voetberg, City Recorder Hawker, Community Development Director Tokos, and Finance Director Marshall.

EVENT VENDOR LICENSES

Hardy distributed a handout that contained information regarding licensing in other municipalities compared to Newport. She noted that the handout ranked communities in terms of strictness. An additional handout contained suggested questions for legal review. She noted that she had looked at different options for umbrella licenses and asked whether there is any reason to treat one type of business differently than others. Tokos suggested a clarification of the relationship between vacation rental owners and the property management companies they work through; in that a decision should be made, and language clarified, that the individual property owners need a license, or the property manager's license covers the individual properties, or both need a license. The question could also apply to individual vendors at the Farmer's Market. Voetberg noted that events are being promoted to increase room stays. He suggested refining what is currently in existence. A discussion ensued regarding insurance; the impact on city services; and the complications of enforcement with exceptions. Schulz noted that enforcement could become a nightmare, but that registration is important. Beck stated that businesses should have a business license, and events should have an event license. Schulz noted that Option C on the handout makes the most sense. Wiley agreed with Schulz. Neigebauer spoke regarding the special event permits. Hardy reiterated that the issue is impact on city services and fairness. McConnell noted that the existing ordinance works, and suggested that a requirement to provide a list of event participants be added to the existing ordinance. Voetberg noted that the event coordinator could be responsible for the fees. Hardy suggested adding a registration requirement and a mechanism to identify vendors and create a registry for the city to track and monitor ongoing activity. McConnell suggested letting vendors make the decision, and that this requirement should be positive rather than punitive. Lorna Davis stated that the list of vendors at the SeaFood and Wine Festival is proprietary as there is competition with other similar events, and if the list was given to the city, it would become a public record. Hardy suggested that the city at the special event code. A discussion ensued regarding events on private versus public property. It was suggested that an over-reaching license could be required for ongoing events. It was suggested

that the entity obtaining a license should be the entity that controls access, and that entity could be responsible for registering all associated businesses.

ESTABLISH NEXT AGENDA

1. Revise Wording to Clarify that an Individual Property Owner, Utilizing the Services of a Management Company, Needs an Individual Business License
2. Clarify Language Associated with Multiple Businesses at a Single Location
3. Begin Final Review of Revised Transient Room Tax Ordinance
4. Refine Specific Questions for Legal Staff

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 A.M.